

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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O 141150Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5313

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC PAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

USDEL JEC PARIS IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING

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DEPT PASS IBS/NCA

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TAGS: PINT, VS

SUB: PRESIDENT THIEU'S SPEECH AT INAUGURATION OF NEW UNION
GOVERNMENT CABINET

REF: (A) FBIS SAIGON SG140735, 0610 GMT 14 APR 75;

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KB) SN140823 FIRST ADD;

(C) SG140828, SECOND ADD;
(D) SG140910, THIRD AND LAST ADD.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SPEECH BY GVN PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU
AT CEREMONY INTRODUCING NEW NATIONAL UNION CABINET OF PRIME
MINISTER NGUYEN BA CAN:

BEGIN TEXT. FIRST OF ALL, I CONVEY MY GREETINGS TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT
FORMED BY THE NEW PRIME MINISTER. I WARMLY WELCOME THE
ADVISERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE SECRETARIES OF STATE, AND
REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS POLITICAL TENDENCIES AND NATIONALIST
MASS ORGANIZATIONS FOR AGREEING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GOVERNMENT
HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER NGUYEN BA CAN.;

I ALSO ACCLAIM THE MEMBERS OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT FOR
AGREEING TO PARTICIPATE IN IT, FOR ASSERTING THEIR STAND AND FOR
PLEDGING TO DEVELOP THEIR WILL AND ABILITIES IN THE PRESENT
DIFFICULT SITUATION IN ORDER TO SAVE AND BUILD THE COUNTRY. I ALSO
ACCLAIM THE MEMBERS OF THE FORMER GOVERNMENT FOR RESPONDING TO
PRIME MINISTER NGUYEN BA CAN'S INVITATION TO WORK IN THE NEW
GOVERNMENT, REGARDLESS OF DIFFICULTIES.

I HAD INSTRUCTED THE PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE TO SET UP A
FIGHTING GOVERNMENT OF UNITY. THE OBJECTIVE OF ACHIEVING NATIONAL
UNITY TO FIGHT IN ORDER TO DEFEND AND BUILD THE COUNTRY HAS NOT
ENDED WITH THE FORMATION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT TODAY; THIS IS AN
OBJECTIVE I HAVE AIMED AT AND WILL AIM AT FOREVER, AND IT IS AN
OBJECTIVE AND ASPIRATION OF ALL OF OUR PEOPLE.

NATIONAL UNITY CAN BE MANIFESTED IN PARTICIPATION OR NON-
PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT, IN THE ASSUMPTION OF THE
FUNCTIONS OF ADVISERS OR SECRETARIES OF STATE, IN THE DIRECT
MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT ORGANS AT THE CENTRAL OR LOCAL LEVEL,
AND IN ONE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMON UNDERTAKING OF THE
COUNTRY AND PEOPLE.

I WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE AND URGE THE PRIME MINISTER TO
MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP THIS UNITY SO ALL THE PEOPLE CAN PARTICIPATE
IN NATIONAL AFFAIRS IN SOME FORM AND IN SOME SPHERE.

I AGREE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER THAT THESE FOUR URGENT TASKS
MUST BE PROMPTLY EXECUTED BY ALL OF US, ESPECIALLY THE NEW
GOVERNMENT.

1. DEFEAT THE CURRENT COMMUNIST AGGRESSION AND PREPARE FOR
A COUNTEROFFENSIVE TO RETAKE THE TEMPORARILY LOST LANDS OF OUR
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COUNTRY.

2. STABILIZE THE REAR BASE IN ALL SPHERES, ESPECIALLY IN THE
SPHERE OF MAINTAINING PUBLIC ORDER AND SECURITY IN THE REAR BASE SO
OUR COMBATANTS CAN SET THEIR MIND AT EASE WHILE FIGHTING, AND IN
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SPHERES SO AS TO INSURE THAT OUR COMPATRIOTS'
DAILY ACTIVITIES REMAIN NORMAL.

3. CONCENTRATE AND COORDINATE ALL EFFORTS AND USE ALL AVAILABLE
MEANS TO EFFECTIVELY ACCELERATE THE RELIEF AND RESETTLEMENT OF

COMMUNIST WAR REFUGEES.

4. I AGREE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER ON THE NEED TO CONSOLIDATE THE FIGHTING SPIRIT AND RESISTANCE STRENGTH OF ALL OF THE RVN ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE WHILE FULLY RELYING ON THE POSITIVE, QUICK, EFFECTIVE AND SUFFICIENT ASSISTANCE OF OUR ALLIES AND OF THE WORLD IN ALL FIELDS, IN COMBAT AS WELL AS IN SOCIAL RELIEF, IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT TO PROTECT FREEDOM AND OUR COUNTRY.

I THINK THE MAIN IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE THAT YOUR FIGHTING GOVERNMENT OF UNITY MUST ACHIEVE AT ALL COSTS IS TO SHOW THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AGGRESSORS THE UNYIELDING FIGHTING DETERMINATION OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE AND TO PROVE TO OUR ALLIES AND THE WORLD PEOPLES THAT THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE POSSESS A POWERFUL WILL AND ABUNDANT CAPABILITIES WITH WHICH THEY CAN SURVIVE.

IN ADDITION, YOUR GOVERNMENT MUST PAY ATTENTION TO CARRYING OUT THE FOLLOWING TWO MAJOR TASKS THAT THE GOVERNMENT LED BY PRIME MINISTER TRAN THIEN KHIEM PURSUED: ELIMINATE SOCIAL VICES AND ACCOMPLISH THE ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION AIMED AT GIVING EFFECTIVE SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE.

THIS MORNING, LET ME ASSERT THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FIGHTING GOVERNMENT OF UNITY IS TO UNITE ALL ELEMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND ALL OUR ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL CLASSES AND DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE SO AS TO FIGHT AND DEFEAT THE COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS AND SAFEGUARD THE FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND HAPPINESS OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. THE FIGHTING GOVERNMENT OF UNITY WAS FORMED ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL BASIS OF THE RVN, THE 1 APRIL 1967 CONSTITUTION THAT ALL OUR PEOPLE ESTABLISHED AND HAVE DEFENDED UP TO THIS TIME.

I HAVE SAID THAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS THUS FAR MAINTAINED MAXIMUM GOODWILL FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS AND THAT ALL THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE SECOND REPUBLIC HAVE DISPLAYED MAXIMUM GOODWILL FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE COMMUNISTS SO AS TO REACH A SOLUTION THAT CAN HELP BRING ABOUT PEACE. THAT IS WHY
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THE PARIS AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON 27 JANUARY 1973.

WE HAVE MANY TIMES SHOWN OUR GOODWILL TO THE WORLD PEOPLES AND EVEN OUR OPPONENT. WE HAVE ADVANCED VERY CONCRETE PROPOSALS. RECENTLY, AT THE VERY TIME WHEN THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS WERE LAUNCHING A FIERCE GENERAL OFFENSIVE, I APPEALED TO THE OTHER SIDE TO RETURN TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE TO SERIOUSLY NEGOTIATE WITH US ON A POLITICAL SOLUTION SPECIFIED IN THE 27 JANUARY 1973 PARIS AGREEMENT. IN MY APPEAL, I EXPRESSED OUR READINESS TO DISCUSS ANY PROBLEM, INCLUDING ONE THAT THE OTHER SIDE HAS OFTEN DEALT WITH-THE FORMATION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC PAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

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USLO PEKING

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IT IS REASONABLE TO SAY THAT THE NEW RVN FIGHTING GOVT OF
UNITY IS FULL OF GOOD WILL FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND IS READY TO
NEGOTIATE. HOWEVER, IT IS NOT A GOVT THAT WILL ASK FOR
SURRENDER TO THE COMMUNISTS AGGRESSORS. IT WILL FIGHT FOR
SURVIVAL AND WILL NOT RESIGN ITSELF TO LOSING THE COUNTRY.
IT IS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE ITS
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DETERMINATION TO ACHIEVE PEACE FREE OF COMMUNIST ENSLAVEMENT. THIS IS NOT A TRANSITIONAL GOVT. SOME PEOPLE MISUNDERSTAND OR DISTORT THE TRUTH THAT THIS IS NOT A GOVT THAT WILL PAVE THEY WAY FOR COALITION, NOR IS IT A GOVT THAT WILL PREPARE FOR MULLIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL POSITION OF THE SOUTH.

WITH REGARD TO OUR ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE, OUR ALLIES AND THE WORLD, WE HAVE THE RVN CONSTITUTION THAT ALL OF OUR PEOPLE FRAMED AND HAVE THUS FAR PROTECTED. THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL STATUS OF THE SOUTH MUST BE ABSOLUTELY PRESERVED.

WITH REGARD TO THE ENEMY, WE HAVE THE PARIS AGREEMENT OF 27 JAN 1973, WHICH OUR OWN REGIME AND THE COMMUNISTS SIGNED AND SOLEMNLY UNDERTOOK TO RESPECT AND ON THE BASIS OF WHICH PEACE MUST BE ACHIEVED.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, GENTLEMEN:

WHILE THE NEW GOVT IS BEING PRESENTED TO OUR PEOPLE NATIONWIDE, LET ME POINT OUT AN ENCOURAGING FACT THAT OUR ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE IN MILITARY REGIONS III AND IV, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN LONG KHANH AND LONG AN PROVINCES, HAVE IN RECENT DAYS DEMONSTRATED THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT AND THE DETERMINATION NOT TO ACCEPT NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST DOMINATION. THIS IS THE DETERMINATION OF ALL THE SOUTHERN ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE TO FIGHT AND NOT TO ACCEPT THE DOMINATION IMPOSED ON THEM BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS. OUR ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR DETERMINATION BY REPELLING THE ATTACKS OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS, COUNTERATTACKING THEM AND INFLECTING HEAVY LOSSES ON THEM IN LIVES AND WEAPONS, AS YOU AND ALL OF OUR PEOPLE HAVE NOTED. THIS INDOMITABLE DETERMINATION ALSO CONSTITUTES VALUABLE SUPPORT FOR THE NEW GOVT.

MEANWHILE, OUR SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE WERE VERY ENCOURAGED TO HEAR US PRES GERALD FORD, IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND CONGRESS, CONFIRM THE USG'S STAND IN THE FACE OF THE COMMUNIST AGGRESSION THAT IS THREATENING THE FREEDOM OF SOUTH VIETNAM, AS WELL AS THE FREEDOM OF THIS REGION OF THE WORLD. IF CONFIRMED THE OBLIGATION OF A BIG ALLY TOWARD UNCLASSIFIED

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AN ALLY THAT HAS FOUGHT SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH THE UNITED STATES, EXPECIALLY THE OBLIGATION OF A BIG ALLY THAT SOLEMNLY UNDERTOOK TO HELP US TO THE END, AS LONG AS WE ARE DETERMINED TO FIGHT TO PROTECT OUR OWN FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE, WE EXPECT NOTHING MORE THAN WHAT WAS STATED BY THE LEADER OF A BIG POWER.

PRES FORD ALSO SPOKE OF CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF THE USG'S UNCHANGED STAND. HE WAS FULLY SUPPORTED BY THE US CONGRESS WHEN HE EXPOSED THE DOUBLE-DEALING NATURE OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS AND THEIR OPEN, BRAZEN AGGRESSION. HE WAS FULLY SUPPORTED BY THE CONGRESS WHEN HE CONFIRMED THE TRUE NATURE OF THE WAR IN SOUTH VIETNAM, WHICH IS AGGRESSION WAGED BY THE NORTH AGAINST THE RVN AND NOT A CIVIL WAR. SOME PEOPLE HAVE DISTORTED THE TRUTH BY DESCRIBING THIS AGGRESSION AS A CIVIL WAR. ALL OF OUR RVN PEOPLE WELCOME THE US PRES'S APPRECIATIVE ATTITUDE AND HOPE THAT THE US ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE AND THE US CONGRESS UNDERSTAND AND RESPOND TO THE SINCERE AND LOVE-FILLED WORDS OF A BIG POWER, OF PRES FORD.

WE EXPECT A SIMILAR, APPRECIATIVE ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE US CONGRESS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE US CONGRESS WILL NOT OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT OVER THE PAST 2 YEARS WE HAVE CONTINUOUSLY URGED THE COMMUNIST SIDE TO SIT DOWN WITH US AND DISCUSS PROCEDURES FOR ACHIEVING A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE SOUTH VIETNAM PROBLEM AND, AS AN IMMEDIATE STEP, DISCUSS AND AGREE ON PROCEDURES FOR FORMING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE US CONGRESS WILL REALIZE THAT A STABLE AND STRONG SOUTH VIETNAM CONSTITUTES AN INEVITABLE CONDITION FOR COMPELLING THE AGGRESSORS TO STOP AND RESPOND TO THE SOLEMN APPEAL OF BOTH THE US EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES.;

59\$-6, THE FIGHTING GOVT OF UNITY IS MAKING ITS APPEARANCE BEFORE OUR PEOPLE NATIONWIDE AT A TIME WHEN OUR COUNTRY IS IN DANGER. HOWEVER, WE ARE FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT WE ARE NOT ALONE IN OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A JUST PEACE FOR SOUTH VIETNAM. IN MY CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT, I WANT TO REITERATE THAT I HAVE LONG HOPED FOR AND TRIED TO ACHIEVE -- THAT IS, THE ASSISTANCE OF A GOVT FORMED ON A BROAD, UNITED BASIS, CONSISTING OF MEMBERS WHO ARE QUALIFIED, WHO DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO SAVING THE COUNTRY AND SERVING THE COMPATRIOTS, WHO HAVE A FIRM STAND, AND WHO DARE UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES SO AS TO UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION, ENFORCE LAWS, MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER AND NATIONAL SECURITY, AND WORK WITH THE ENTHUSIASM OF NATIONAL CADRES, ESPECIALLY WITH AN ESPRIT DE CORPS.

IN THE PRESENT SITUATION, THE GOVT MUST SET EXAMPLES OF LEADERSHIP, MUST MAKE EXPEDITIOUS ACTION, MUST BE ALERT, CALM AND DETERMINED, MUST DEMONSTRATE ITS DETERMINATION AND ITS ABILITY TO WORK EFFECTIVELY, AND MUST PROMOTE CONFIDENCE AMONG ALL THE PEOPLE AND THEREBY WIN THEIR SUPPORT.

I BELIEVE THAT THE FIGHTING GOVT OF UNITY EMBRACES MEN OF

THE TIMES. IN THE PRESENT TRIAL, THE NATIONAL INTERESTS AND REQUIREMENTS MUST BE PLACED ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE. AS I HAVE OFTEN SAID, URGENT AND ABSOLUTE PRIORITY MUST BE GIVEN TO THE TASK OF SAVING THE COUNTRY. THEREFORE, I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CALL ON ALL THE PEOPLE AND ALL POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PUT ASIDE PERSONAL DIFFERENCES AND TO UNITE AROUND THE FIGHTING GOVT OF UNITY IN ORDER TO STRUGGLE FOR THE SURVIVAL OF OUR SOUTH.

MAY I WISH THE PRIME MINISTER, THE ADVISORS AND THE NEW GOVT SUCCESS. END TEXT.

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